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HISTORY OF  
SAINT PATRICK PARISH

St.

1893 - 1943

Kankakee, Ill.

1893 - 1943



M. L. Owens

ACME PUBLISHING COMPANY  
Kankakee, Illinois  
1943

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# GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE CHURCH of ST. PATRICK

1893 - 1943

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D [OWENS, MARY LILLIANA, sister]

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"Author's preface" signed: Sister M. Lilliana  
Owens.

Bibliography: p. 77-78.



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## *Dedication . . . .*

To the Memory of the First Building  
Committee of April 1891, Mr. William  
A. McGillis, Edward J. Daylor, George  
A. Lavery, Daniel Lavery, James Dolan;  
and to all who have helped to erect  
and in later years to adorn the present  
"home for their Father—God."



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## FOREWORD

This book of dedication has been compiled as a book of memories and achievements. It serves as a humble tribute to the intrepid spirit of the pioneers of yester-years. To them and to you, the faithful, generous and devoted parishioners of the present who follow so loyally the magnificent example of those who suffered the heat and bore the burden of the founding years, this Golden Jubilee booklet is offered with our sincere compliments. To the children of today and their children of tomorrow, we present this souvenir as a story of the better living to be emulated by them in the bitter days ahead.

To His Excellency Most Reverend Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, the energetic Chief-Pastor of our souls, who proclaims so well the merits of spending ones life on God's side, we offer this Jubilee record in testament of our love, devotion and loyalty.

To His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop Sheil, our heartfelt thanks for those spiritual values received in our parish life and which derive from him as an outstanding organizer of modern youth.

To His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop O'Brien, President of the Catholic Church Extension Society, our thanks for many favors received.

To the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross, who have taught so loyally and well in the class rooms of our parish schools, we offer this Jubilee Souvenir as a testament of gratitude in return for their contribution to the golden glory of this Jubilee year.

To the Triune God who has blessed so munificently our parishioners, we offer it as a keep-sake of a noble past. May He continue to bless your lives through the powerful intercession of His glorious Mother and through the sweet solicitude of His great Apostle—Patrick.

May you carry the melody of this Jubilee song forever in your Patrician hearts.

J. A. Lowney, C. S. V.

The Feast of St. Patrick.  
March 17, 1943.



## AUTHOR'S PREFACE

The purpose of this historical sketch is to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the St. Patrick parish; and to put into permanent form the story of the founding and the growth of the parish. In lieu of the fact that the Silver Jubilee of the St. Patrick high school occurs in 1947 the history of the two schools is omitted from this account. It is hoped that a detailed history of these two institutions will be compiled at that time.

To satisfactorily tell the story of the St. Patrick parish more than a chronicle of events is necessary. The lives and activities of many persons have undoubtedly, in many instances, exercised an influence upon the affairs of the parish, and have, therefore, become of historical interest. Yet, it is impossible for us to give a complete account of many of these as the records have either been lost, or, because of the busy lives of the individuals themselves, have been unrecorded.

Acknowledgments are due the Reverend James A. Lowney, C. S. V., the pastor of St. Patrick church, Kankakee, Illinois, the Clerics of St. Viator both of the St. Patrick parish and the Provincial House, Chicago, Illinois, the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross, the former pastors, who are living; and the parishioners who have so generously responded to the call for contributions of historical data and for old photographs of various scenes in and about the parish; Miss Lillian Ryan, Librarian of **The New World**, Chicago, Illinois; Miss Daisy Munson, Librarian, St. Joseph Nursing Library, Chicago, Illinois, Miss Dorothy Brown, Librarian, Public Library Kankakee, Illinois; Mr. Albert Mayer, City Editor of **The Kankakee Republican News**; Miss Honora Lavery, Miss Anna Lavery, Mrs. Constance Granger Anderson, Miss Doris Muens-termann, Mr. Lester McGinnis, Mr. Fred Kamp, Marie Carson, William Kraus, Mae Courtney and Gertrude Courtney.

Sister M. Lilliana Owens, S. L.

The Feast of St. Patrick  
March 17, 1943.





ST. PATRICK CHURCH, KANKAKEE, ILLINOIS





HIS HOLINESS, PIUS XII.





The Most Reverend  
**SAMUEL A. STRITCH, D. D.**  
Archbishop of Chicago





The Most Reverend  
**BERNARD J. SHEIL, D. D.**  
Auxillary Bishop of Chicago





The Most Reverend  
**WILLIAM D. O'BRIEN, D.D.**  
Auxillary Bishop of Chicago



PROVINCIAL  
of the  
CLERICS OF ST. VIATOR



The Very Reverend  
**RICHARD J. FRENCH, C. S. V.**  
Assistant  
**ST. PATRICK CHURCH**  
Kankakee, Illinois  
1938 - 1939



THE PASTOR  
of the  
ST. PATRICK CHURCH



THE REVEREND JAMES A. LOWNEY, C. S. V.



**PRESENT ASSISTANTS AT ST. PATRICK CHURCH**

1943



**REV. DONALD C. GLYNN,**  
C. S. V.

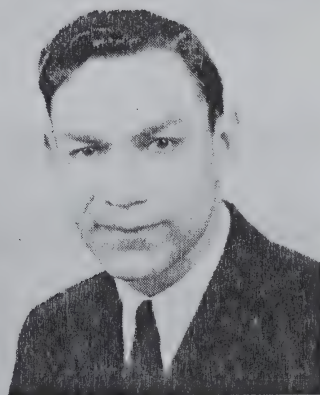


**REV. ERIC A. SHAFF,**  
C. S. V.



**REV. EDWARD F. HAUNGS,**  
C. S. V.

High School Faculty Member



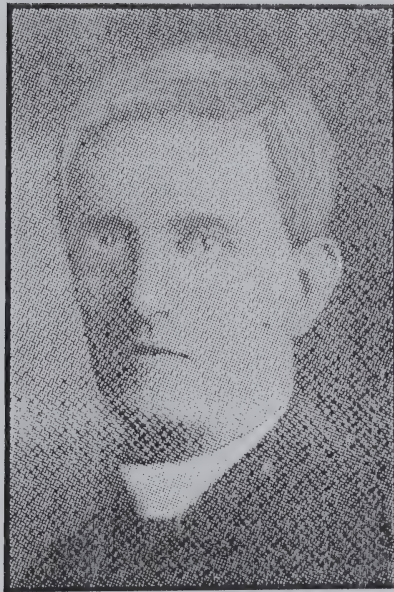
**BRO. GERARD M. La MARRE,**  
C.S.V.

High School Faculty Member



THE FIRST PASTOR  
of  
**ST. PATRICK CHURCH**  
Kankakee, Illinois

*In Memoriam*



**REVEREND J. J. DARCY**  
1893 - 1896



## FORMER PASTORS NOW DECEASED

Reverend  
**WILLIAM HACKETT**



1896 - 1902



Reverend  
**T. J. WHALEN**

1902 - 1903

Reverend  
**JOHN P. AYLWARD**



1904 - 1905



## FORMER PASTORS NOW LIVING



**Rev. John T. Bennett**  
1905 - 1916



**Monsignor John F. Ryan**  
1916 - 1917



**Rev. Henry M. Shea**  
1917 - 1924



**Rev. Edward B. McNally**  
1924 - 1931



**Rev. William Bergin, C.S.V.**  
1931 - 1932



**Rev. Thomas E. Fitzpatrick, C.S.V.**  
1932 - 1942



## ASSISTANT PRIESTS

1893 - 1943

---

Reverend Daniel Lanegan

Reverend James Ryan

Reverend Matthew Hanley

Reverend J. B. Barrett

Reverend T. E. Fitzpatrick, C. S. V.

Reverend J. J. Lynch, C. S. V.

Reverend F. A. Corcoran, C. S. V.

Reverend E. T. O'Neil, C. S. V.

Reverend J. E. Williams, C. S. V.

Reverend F. J. Harbauer, C. S. V.

Reverend L. Mc Manamon, C. S. V.

Reverend Richard J. French, C. S. V.

Reverend James L. Naughtin, C. S. V.

Reverend Donald C. Glynn, C. S. V.

Reverend Eric A. Schaff, C. S. V.

Reverend Edward F. Haungs, C. S. V.—Part time Assistant and  
High School Faculty Member.



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

---

First Committee, styled the "Building Committee".....	April 1891
Mr. William McGillis, Edward J. Daylor, George A. Lavery, Daniel Lavery and James Dolan.	
First Baptism—John McNally .....	July 1, 1892
First Mass in G. A. R. Hall .....	July 2, 1892
First Marriage—Ferdinand Meyers and Margaret Fairell.....	September 20, 1893
First Benediction and Vespers .....	March 18, 1894
First Death—Florence Spillane.....	May 11, 1894
First Mission .....	November 11, 1895
First Altar and Rosary Society.....	1896
First Altar Boys' Society .....	1896
First Christmas Crib .....	December 25, 1897
First Affiliated Boys' Sodality, Sodality of Our Lady of Good Counsel .....	1903
First Affiliated Girls' Sodality, Sodality of the An- nunciation .....	1903
First Outdoor Crib .....	1939
First Band Parents' Club .....	October 21, 1942
First Parish History .....	March 17, 1943



## SIX SIGNS OF GROWTH IN SAINT PATRICK PARISH

---

Here are six signs which indicate the growth of this parish, and which give promise of continued progress.

1. Number of families from 130 (listed in Annual Report) to 1116
2. Number of schools from 1 to 2
3. Number of school children from 175 to 653
4. Number of Sisters of Loretto from 6 to 17  
Number of lay teachers from 0 to 2  
Number of Brother teachers from 0 to 1  
Number of Priest teachers from 0 to 4
5. Number of Masses from 1 on Sunday to 4 daily
6. Number attending Mass on Sunday from 900 to 2,400.



## A TOAST IS TENDERED TO

The former pastors of the parish, who labored to keep the Faith brightly burning in the hearts of the people of the parish.

The men and women of the parish, who, for twenty-five years or more, have been loyal parishioners of St. Patrick Church.

The parishioners of the more recent years, whose generosity, love and devotion have been a consolation to the priests and sisters of the parish.

The Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross, who for twenty-nine years, have, by their teaching efforts, shown their love and devotion for the children of the parish.

The Clerics of St. Viator, who during their years at St. Patrick parish, have ever tried to live faithful to their community motto, "Suffer the Little Children to Come Unto Me."

Brother Gerard LaMarre, C. S. V., for his untiring interest in and devotion to the work of the school and of the parish.

The donors of the various furnishings in the parish church, convent and the schools.

The Holy Name Society, whose public manifestations of their Faith is an encouragement to others to heed the call for Catholic Action.

The Ushers whose efforts have helped make for order at all of the services.

The Altar Boys who have been loyal and devoted in their services around the altar.

The Altar and Rosary Society, who have helped provide for the adornment of the altars, the care of the vestments and all that pertains to the Divine worship.

The Young People's Club and the Sodality of Our Lady, whose Faith and zeal have added to the greater glory and imitation of Mary, the Mother of God.

The Boy Scouts and Cubs for the work they have done in their organization.

The Boys of the School Safety Patrol, who have rendered such attentive services to the children of the grade school and who from the first day of their services have a perfect record of the performance of duty.

The Children, the joy and hope of Christ's Church and of the United States of America.

The Organist and Choir for their efforts to enhance the beauty of our Devotions.

And lastly our chaplains, our young men and women in the service of their country, who are so nobly facing the grim realities of war that the principles of Christ may not be blotted from the earth.



# RELIGIOUS HONOR ROLL

---

## PRIESTS

Reverend James Lockwood  
Reverend Rouleau Joubert, O. P.  
Reverend Leo Scheibel, C. P.  
Reverend Matthias Coen, C. P.  
Reverend Bernard Fitzgerald, C. M.  
Reverend Francis Des Lauriers, C. S. V.  
Reverend Maurice Daily, C. S. V.

## BROTHERS

Brother Martin M. McLaughlin, C. S. V.  
Brother Thomas O'Connor, C. S. V.  
Brother Harold Devereaux, C. S. V.  
Brother Raymond Wilken, C. S. V.  
Brother Robert J. Marsolais, C. S. V.

## SEMINARIAN

William Martin, C. M.

## SISTERS

Sister Mary Ursula Yonke, S. S. C. M.  
Sister Mary of the Angels Doheny, S. S. C. M.  
Sister Gerarda Marie Joubert, H. N.  
Sister Mary Cecilia Coen, S. L.  
Sister Loretto Marie Emling, S. L.  
Sister Rose Ann Farman, S. L.  
Sister Mary Miguel Mayrand, S. L.  
Sister Mary Janice Schneider, S. L.  
Sister Ann Patrice Wagner, S. L.  
Sister Mary Cleophas Wagner, S. L.  
Sister Virginia Mary Waitekunas, S. L.

## NOVICE

Sister Mary Marecelline Nally, S. L.



# HONOR ROLL OF PARISHIONERS

## FIFTY YEARS

MR. AND MRS. LOUIS SCHNEIDER

JAMES McKEON

MRS. MARY SHEA

MRS. MARY ANNE POWERS

MRS. MARGARET BELDEN

ARTHUR FARRELL

HONORA LAVERY

ANNA LAVERY

THOMAS TYRRELL

MRS. ELIZABETH SCHAFER

## FORTY-FIVE YEARS OR MORE

MRS. MARGARET SPILLANE

MR. AND MRS. F. P. SOMERS

MR. AND MRS. J. P. BURNS

MRS. F. W. MATTHEWS

MRS. HARRY LOWER

MRS. JENNIE BOOTH

MICHAEL QUIGLEY

EDWARD QUIGLEY

ANNA QUIGLEY

ERNEST DOYLE

ELIZABETH DOYLE

MYRTLE DOYLE

MR. J. W. MORTELL

## FORTY YEARS OR MORE

MR. J. L. MORTELL

MRS. MARTHA NELIS

JAMES F. NELIS

MARIE NELIS

MRS. NELLIE QUIGLEY

MRS. JAMES McKEON

MISS HONORA O'NEILL

MISS MARGARET O'NEILL

JOHN O'NEILL

CORRINE LeTOURNEAU



MRS. LUCILLE LaROCQUE  
JAMES COEN  
MRS. FRANK HATTING  
MR. AND MRS. FREDERICK H. ASHBY  
MAYME POWERS  
MRS. MARY LANG  
MRS. MARY MARTIN  
MRS. MARGARET MULVANEY  
MRS. ADOLPH FORTIER  
MRS. H. B. DeSELM  
MRS. THEODORE KAHNT  
MRS. HARRIET HEWES  
RUDOLPH HEWES  
WALTER HEWES  
MRS. PHILOMENA EDDY  
MR. THOMAS J. DOYLE  
MRS. L. H. DES LAURIERS  
DR. J. A. ZWISLER, D. D. S.  
MRS. ROSE LEES  
MRS. NORA I. LANGAN  
BERNADETTE LAVERY  
MARIE CARSON  
MRS. MARGARET CRAPO  
MRS. WALTER A. SMALL  
MRS. GERTRUDE ADAME  
JOHN C. MURPHY  
MRS. MYRTLE BERTRAND  
MRS. F. J. SCHATZLE

#### **THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OR MORE**

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM LOISELLE  
MRS. ANNA WILSON  
JOHN E. MURPHY  
CHARLES W. MURPHY  
ELLEN M. MURPHY  
MRS. ANNA HANSEN  
MRS. IRENE MADISON  
MRS. JOHN GERNON  
ROBERT GERNON  
ROSETTA GERNON



MRS. JOHN DUNN  
MRS. CAROLINE FREIER AND FAMILY  
MRS. ANTON MUNICH  
FRANCES MUNICH  
MOLLIE MUNICH  
NORA COEN  
MRS. JOHN CARLIN  
MRS. VERNON G. BUTZ  
MR. AND MRS. SOLOMON DEVEREAUX  
DR. D. J. O'LOUGHLIN  
MRS. ARTHUR FARRELL  
MRS. THOMAS GREELY AND FAMILY  
HENRY ZINKANN  
MRS. ANNA SKEEN  
MRS. MAE CHEFFER  
DANIEL HOLWELL  
MR. AND MRS. JOHN SCHRINER

**THIRTY YEARS OR MORE**

MRS. T. J. REILLY AND FAMILY  
MRS. EARL OFFERMAN  
F. W. MATTHEWS  
MRS. JANE BOTT  
MR. AND MRS. E. O. ARRINGTON  
JOSEPH J. KNECHT  
DR. WILLIAM GERNON  
MELINA J. MURPHY  
MR. AND MRS. JOHN MANAU  
MRS. ERNEST J. DOYLE  
MR. AND MRS. GABRIEL ZULLO  
MRS. MARY SHEEHAN  
MRS. ALPHONSE BARON  
MISS BLANCHE BRADLEY  
MRS. JOHN P. HICKEY  
MRS. ROBERT BREAUULT  
LESTER MCGINNIS  
MR. AND MRS. LOUIS C. PREW  
MRS. WILLIAM McDERMOTT  
MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR DUVAL  
OLIVER DUVAL



MR. AND MRS. LOUIS C. FARMAN  
MRS. LUCY PALARDIS  
MRS. MARGARET ALDRICH  
FRANCIS T. ZIMMER  
MISS CLARA HEINIS  
EDWARD H. DEMPSEY  
CAPT. ELWOOD DEMPSEY  
MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH MORELLA  
THOMAS CASEY  
MRS. WILLIAM J. ROY  
JAMES ROACH  
WILLIAM J. SPOHRER  
DOROTHY MARIE WULFF  
CLAUDE M. PREW  
MR. AND MRS. JAMES T. GRAY  
MR. AND MRS. PETER KELIHER  
RUTH ASHBY  
HELEN ASHBY  
MRS. J. W. GOODWIN

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OR MORE**

MISS CATHARINE MCKAY  
MRS. ANNIE KNITTEL  
AGNES BARRETT  
MARGARET BARRETT  
WILLIAM BARRETT  
SHERWOOD ADAME  
MRS. WILLIAM R. SMITH  
MRS. T. M. MARCOTTE  
MR. AND MRS. C. I. KNITTEL  
MRS. D. J. O'LOUGHLIN  
MRS. LUCY BLUNT  
DONALD F. ADAME  
HARRY LOWER  
ROBERT J. ADAME  
MR. AND MRS. ALFRED DuBOIS  
MRS. A. W. PETERSON  
MRS. ESTELLE GRANGER  
CLAUDE GRANGER  
MRS. CONSTANCE ANDERSON



MR. AND MRS. A. H. PAULISSEN  
MR. AND MRS. J. J. RONDY  
MR. AND MRS. A. J. HARTQUIST  
MRS. MAXINE GROB  
MAE COURTNEY  
GERTRUDE COURTNEY  
MR. AND MRS. EDWARD ARSENEAU  
MR. AND MRS. R. A. FRUIN  
MARY E. FRUIN  
MARGUERITE E. FRUIN  
MRS. JEROME KEELEY  
FRANK R. HATTING  
MR. AND MRS. PATRICK J. COTTER  
MRS. HONORE CUSTER  
MRS. FLORENCE ZOPF  
MRS. WALTER HEYDENDAAL  
ROBERT WATHEN  
CLYDE WATHEN  
MRS. ORVILLE MENARD  
NAOMI MINOR  
EVA MINOR  
MR. AND MRS. E. A. LaBEAU  
MRS. THOMAS J. DOYLE  
MR. F. J. SCHATZLE  
MRS. FRANK LOOK





## WORLD WAR I VETERANS



Top Sergeant Wm. A. Bergan	Harry Lower
John R. Brazel	Bugler Fred. Mannau
Captain Wm. P. Cannon, M. D.	John F. McCarthy
Anna L. Gernon Burns	Geo. McCarthy
Edward J. Cantlin	David J. McClaren
James T. Clifford	Edward McCormick
William J. Clifford	John F. McCarry
Thomas D. Corcoran	Francis McNabney
Frank Crapo	Barry Mitchell
Herbert Crawley	Sergt. Ray A. Mitchell
Richard P. Des Lauriers	Ralph Mitchell
Edgar F. Donar	Edwin E. Mortell
Gerald E. Donar	J. Leonard Mortell
Sergeant Vernon J. Donar	Anton Munich
Edward Dougherty	Henry E. O'Neill
Ernest J. Doyle	Color Sergt. John C. O'Neill
George Duval	Martin Quigley
Oliver Duval	Joseph P. Reis
Francis S. Eddy	Raymond Schneider
Thomas F. Fenton	John J. Shea
Robert J. Fitzgerald	John E. Snyder
Lieutenant John J. Gallagher	Joseph Sollo
Anna L. Gernon	F. P. Somers
Gerald D. Gernon	Paul P. Somers
John H. Gernon	Percy St. Hilaire
John C. Gregor	Henry Strutzel
Joseph F. Heeter	W. J. Toohey
Rudolph Hewes	Herve A. Towner
Wm. J. Jaeger	Artel J. Towner
Maurice Kale	Alfred Volkmann
Frank Kalchinski	Paul Wadley
John G. Klonowski	Carl Wegner
James F. Langan	Corp. Chas. L. Wertz
James T. Langan	Lloyd B. Wertz
Meddie Lemanger	Anthony J. Zimmer
Raymond Lemanger	Geo. A. Zimmer
Eard Geo. Lockwood	Capt. John A. Zwisler D.D.S.



# NATIONAL HONOR ROLL WORLD WAR II

1943



**PRIVATE FIRST CLASS FRANCIS J. PREW**

Died at the age of 24 years in Australia, April 26, 1942

Military Funeral with Honors April 29, 1942.



Sherwood Adame  
Michael Allen  
Thomas Allen  
Charles Alwine  
William Amberg  
Paul F. Anthony  
Edward P. Armstrong  
James Arrington  
Jack Barnum  
Donald Baldwin  
Anthony Baratta  
Joseph Baratta  
Jack Bartholic

Louis Beck  
William E. Beckhelm  
Robert Beland  
Thomas Beland  
Bartley Bestor  
Arthur Bissonnette  
Maynard Bissonnette  
Roger Blanchette  
Willard Blanchette  
Roy Gropp Blank  
Russell Gropp Blank  
Donald Bolen  
Lionel Bouchard



Edward Boulger  
 Eugene Brammer  
 Albert Braun  
 Frederick A. Braun  
 John Braun  
 Vernon Brosseau  
 Leon Brouillette  
 Clarence Buck  
 Leroy Buck  
 Raymond Buck  
 Robert Burgoon  
*James Burns*  
*John Burns*  
 Thomas Burns  
 Edward Byron  
 James Wallace Casey  
 Thomas Cassady  
 Jack Cassatt  
 Ernest Cassidy  
 Russell Cassidy  
 Francis Cavender  
 Donald J. Cheffer  
 Hector Cheffer  
 Orville Cheffer  
 Donald F. Clark  
 Marion Francis Clark  
 James E. Cleary  
 Daniel Clements  
 Raymond T. Condon  
 Robert J. Cosgrove  
 Arnold Cote  
 Donald Cote  
 Vernon Cote  
 Jerome Crevier  
 Lester Crevier  
 Donald Cryer  
 Edward Cryer  
 Gennaro DeCarlo  
 Maurille DeLaFontaine  
 Reynold DeLaFontaine, Jr.  
 Adeloire Demarah  
 Donald Demarah  
 Paul Demarah  
 Louis Demere  
 Elwood Dempsey  
 Arsene J. Denoyer  
 Joseph J. DeSelm  
 Lawrence Devereaux

John W. Dooley  
 Robert D. Dooley  
 Louis Doris  
 Paul Drolet  
 Raymond Drolet  
 Robert Drolet  
 John J. Drury  
 Francis W. DuBois  
 Patrick J. Duignan, Jr.  
 Arthur Durell  
 Walter F. Ellis  
 E. Jerome Erzinger  
 Eurchard Flageole  
 Lester Flageole  
 John L. Forrestal  
 Thomas P. Forrestal  
 Clayton Fortin  
 Leon Frechette  
 Thomas Frederick  
 Elmer Frueh  
 William Funk  
 Dr. William Gernon  
 Edward F. Gerrity, Jr.  
 James Getzendanner  
 Joseph Gill  
 James R. Goodman  
 Vincent J. Goodman  
 Edgar Granger  
 Harold Granger  
 Jerome A. Granger  
 Urbain H. Granger  
 Arthur Graveline  
 James Graves  
 Richard Graves  
 Merville Grob  
 Donald H. Gund  
 Dale J. Hackley  
 Alvin Harrington  
 John Hartigan  
 Dr. Henry A. Hartman  
 John Hathaway  
 William F. Hatting  
 Adrian G. Hebert  
 Camille Hebert  
 Bernard Hedditch  
 Robert Hedditch, Jr.  
 Robert B. Heeger  
 Edward Heine



John D. Hickey  
 Daniel Holwell  
 Edward Hoover  
 Francis J. Housholter  
 Enrique Hubert  
 Bruce Ihde  
 Alvin Jacob  
 William Jaeger, Jr.  
 Jerome M. Keeley  
 Dr. Leonard Kelly  
 Dr. Vincent Kelly  
 Adolph Kerger, Jr.  
 James Kilcullen  
 William Kilcullen  
 Richard King  
 Donald J. Kirts  
 John Knapp  
 Joseph E. Knecht, Jr.  
 William Kraus, Jr.  
 William LaBarge  
 Thomas Lahners  
 Boisvert Lambert  
 Rene LaGesse  
 Stewart Lamere  
 Lionel Lamie  
 Marshall Lamore  
 Dr. Shirley Lane  
 Paul Langlois  
 Raymond Langlois  
 Gene LaRocque  
 Bart League  
 Orville LeBeau  
 Paul LeBoeuf  
 Albert Lecocq  
 Joseph Lecocq  
 Paul Lecour, Jr.  
 Francis Lee  
 Paul Lee  
 Harvey Legris  
 Zenis F. Lemna  
 Joseph Leppert, Jr.  
 Newell Leppert  
 Dorothy Lonergan  
 Chester J. Lord  
 Robert J. Lordan  
 George Lorenz  
 Leo Lottinville  
 Howard Madsen

Philip Marcotte  
 Vincent Marsolais  
 Daniel Mathews  
 John Massignani  
 Robert W. Maxfield  
 Lester McClure  
 George McCullough  
 John D. McCullough  
 Paul McCullough  
 Orville McDermott  
 Leonard McIntyre  
 Jack McKenna  
 Robert McKenna, Jr.  
 Rev. L. J. McManamon, C.S.V.  
 Francis McElroy  
 Joseph Menard  
 Leon Messier  
 Robert Messier  
 Dale J. Metzinger  
 John J. Millon  
 Andre Mongeau  
 William Morel  
 John Mortell  
 Wilbur Mortell  
 Charles R. Murphy  
 Mariette Murphy  
 Paul I. Murphy  
 James F. Nelis  
 Randal Nephew  
 Paul T. Noonan  
 Dr. Raymond Nourie  
 Francis O'Brien  
 Joseph O'Brien  
 Alex O'Connor  
 John G. O'Connor  
 Joseph T. O'Connor  
 Paul O'Connor  
 William A. O'Connor, Jr.  
 Daniel O'Loughlin  
 Donald O'Malley  
 Edward O'Malley  
 Paul O'Malley  
 Kenneth O'Mara  
 Thomas O'Reilly  
 Richard Ortman  
 Francis J. Paulissen  
 Leo Paulissen  
 Robert W. Paulissen



Paul Pelletier  
Herman Pelletier  
Eames Pilotte  
Howard Posing  
Eugene Poskin  
Claude M. Prew  
Francis Prew, (deceased)  
Harold J. Provancal  
Jean Provot  
Edward Quigley  
Donald J. Regnier  
Orville Regnier  
Catherine Reid  
Charles T. Reilly  
James Reilly  
Terry Reilly  
Thomas Reilly  
Paul J. Riberdy  
Wilbert W. Rice  
Arthur T. Richard  
Joseph Richert  
Thomas Richert  
Francis Riordan  
Richard Robischon  
Joseph J. Rondy  
Jerald Rosenberger  
William Roy, Jr.  
James Schmidt  
John Schmidt

Paul Schrinier  
Orell Senesac  
Joseph Shea  
John Sheehan  
Edward Sheehan  
Robert Shuman  
James Max Stentz  
John Stentz  
Frank W. Suehs  
John Theodore Taylor  
John Tierney  
James W. Turcotte  
Steven C. Turcotte  
Bertram Trost  
Edward C. Upton  
Charles Vollmer  
Ernest Vollmer  
Edward J. Walsh  
Francis J. Wasnea  
Walter Watson  
Howard Williams  
Lloyd Willette  
Edward C. Worby  
Robert T. Yeates  
Helen Yeates  
George K. Zinkann  
Leo Zullo  
Leopold Zullo



# ORGANIZATIONS IN ST. PATRICK PARISH IN 1943

## HOLY NAME SOCIETY

President .....	Mr. John McDermott
Vice President .....	Mr. Michael L. Clancy
Secretary .....	Mr. Marvin Huot
Treasurer .....	Mr. Leslie Riely

## ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY

President .....	Mrs. Patrick J. Cotter
Vice President .....	Mrs. John D. Lenehan
Recording Secretary .....	Miss Edith Carmody
Corresponding Secretary .....	Mrs. Jack Colvert
Treasurer .....	Mrs. Walter Eckenstein

## YOUNG PEOPLES' CLUB

President .....	Miss Dorothy Allie
Vice President .....	Miss Iola Walker
Secretary .....	Miss Rita Memenga
Treasurer .....	Miss Catherine Ortman

## USHERS CLUB

President .....	Mr. E. O. Arrington
Vice President .....	Mr. F. P. Somers
Secretary .....	Mr. T. J. Cassady

## BOY SCOUTS

Scoutmaster .....	Mr. Camille Riberdy
Assistant Scoutmaster .....	Mr. Harold Eimen
Treasurer .....	Mr. John McDermott
Committeeman .....	Mr. Daniel Holwell
Committeeman .....	Mr. Arthur Bertrand
Committeeman .....	Mr. Thomas Riordan
Committeeman .....	Mr. Thomas Cassady

## CUB SCOUTS

Cubmaster .....	Mr. Walter Small
Committeeman .....	Mr. Michael L. Clancy
Committeeman .....	Mr. Matthew Bezek
Committeeman .....	Mr. Elmer Provanceal
Committeeman .....	Mr. Charles Kribs
Committeeman .....	Mr. Nels Christopherson



### CHILDREN OF MARY SODALITY

Boy Prefect .....	Alexis Boisvert
Boy Secretary .....	Louis Sebastiani
Boy Treasurer .....	Richard Loiselie
Girl Prefect .....	Celeste Boudreau
Girl Secretary .....	Phyllis Gadbois
Girl Treasurer .....	Marguerite Schafer

### BAND PARENTS' CLUB

President .....	Mr. Paul LeCuyer
Secretary .....	Mrs. Michael L. Clancy
Treasurer .....	Mrs. Harry Carroll



## Historical Sketch of the St. Patrick Parish

In 1855 the Illinois Central Railway reached Kankakee, Illinois. This same year the establishment of a colony on the hill of Kankakee was begun. It also marks the founding of the parish of St. Rose, of which Reverend Louis Cartuyels was the first pastor. For many years the parish of St. Rose embraced all of the territory, not only of the city, but of Goodrich, Pilot and Irwin, and the pastors from St. Rose attended these growing outlying districts until they could form parishes of their own.<sup>1</sup>

In 1874 when the German Catholics had become numerous enough they founded the Immaculate Conception parish, later called St. Mary parish. The first church burned, but was replaced with an appropriate building.

In the month of August 1885<sup>2</sup> a meeting was held in the store of Mr. Richard Lavery. There were present at this meeting Joseph Cruise, Daniel Lavery, Patrick Threhy, James Riley, Sr., Thomas Sweeney, William Powers, Richard Lavery and George Lavery. The purpose of this organization, as given out at this time, was "the spiritual, intellectual, and social improvement of its members." They decided to call themselves **The Irish American Association**. In April 1891 the name was changed to the **Catholic Columbian Association**. All funds were transferred into the treasury of the new organization amounting to \$600. The aim and purpose of this organization seems to have been to obtain the appointment of an English-speaking priest at St. Rose Church who should have the particular charge of the Irish parishioners. However, the real object was to eventually establish an English-speaking parish.

A committee was appointed in April 1891, which was styled the "building committee." It consisted of the following members of the association: William McGillis, Edward J.

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1. Newton Bateman and Paul Selby, **Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Kankakee County**, vol. II, p. 658, "Kankakee."

2. See **Diamond Jubilee of the Archdiocese of Chicago**, 1920, pp. 560-561.



Daylor, George A. Lavery and James Dolan.<sup>3</sup> This committee found a suitable location on the corner of Indiana Avenue and Hickory Street in two lots belonging to Doctor A. S. Cutler. Doctor Cutler was, according to Miss Katherine Cruise,<sup>4</sup> the daughter of Mr. Joseph Cruise,

... a very righteous Baptist; and as Edward Daylor was a new comer here he was sent to interview the said Dr. Cutler, who questioned what sort of a house he was to put up. He replied, "Well Doctor I tell you it will be a very good house . . . ."

Mr. Daylor told the man that the lots were to be used "for a home for his Father." The price to be paid for the lots was \$2000 of which \$1000 was to be a cash payment. David Lavery and James Dolan borrowed the needed \$400 at the bank on their own personal note. They secured a deed of the lots with a mortgage of a thousand dollars running for one year, which was paid in March 1892.

Historical records<sup>5</sup> show that a priest was assigned to Kankakee in June 1892 in the person of Reverend J. J. Darcy, a native of Wisconsin, who read the first Mass in the G. A. R. Hall on East Court Street, July 2, 1892. After this date the services were held in St. Joseph Hall on West Court Street until the erection of the present St. Patrick church. The new parish was named St. Patrick by the Irish parishioners in honor of Ireland's patron Saint. The first baptism recorded in the records of the newly formed parish was that of John McNally son of John McNally and Rose Anderson. It was administered by Father Darcy on July 1, 1892. The first marriage recorded was that of Ferdinand Meyers and Margaret Fairell on September 20, 1893.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Florence Spillane, the husband of Mrs. Margaret Spillane, was the first person to be buried from the new church. The scaffolding was still up on the day of his funeral. He died May 11, 1894 and was buried on May 14, 1894.

Father Darcy and his parishioners had hoped to have

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3. *Ibid.*, 1. c.

4. Letter of February 5, 1943 in Office of the Principal, St. Patrick High School, Kankakee, Illinois, from Miss Katherine Cruise living at 6711 N. 31 Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

5. **Diamond Jubilee of the Archdiocese of Chicago**, 1. c.

6. See **Records** in parish office, St. Patrick Rectory, Kankakee, Illinois.



midnight Mass in 1893 in the new church that was to be erected on the corner of Indiana Avenue and Hickory Street as **The Kankakee Gazette**<sup>7</sup> states:

The new Catholic Church will be open for midnight Mass on Christmas Eve . . . . but the plans must have miscarried for the same paper in the issue for March 15, 1894 says:

St. Patrick's congregation assembled in the new church for the first time last Sunday [March 11, 1894]. The building was begun two years ago, and is now complete at the cost of \$35,000 . . . Father Darcy has directed the work with rare skill and judgment and has been loyally backed by an enthusiastic sodality. The building is 135 x 60 with sittings for 600 persons. Vestry rooms for the priests and altar boys occupy positions on either side of the auditorium, and a music room for the exclusive use of the choir opens upon the choir gallery which occupies the rear of the auditorium. The building is lighted with electricity and heated by steam. The pews are of antique oak, simple but elegant in design. The decorations are artistic and beautiful . . . the altars are white with gold trimmings. The circular window over the main entrance is the largest in the city being 15 feet in diameter. The side windows are all memorial windows contributed by several members of the society. A pipe organ and a seven bell chime are to be put in this season . . . .<sup>8</sup>

From **The Kankakee Sun**<sup>9</sup> we learn that **1825700**

. . . the first Vespers and Benediction were celebrated on Easter Sunday afternoon. Special music has been prepared and an interesting service is promised . . . .

The first mission in St. Patrick Church, of which we have any record, began on Monday morning, November 11, 1895 with high Mass and the unveiling of the statues of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin. On this occasion Mrs. T. F. Donovan and Miss Mae Lavery sang the **Ave Maria**.<sup>10</sup>

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7. December 21, 1893.

8. Some of the windows were put in later as several of them are dedicated to the various pastors who died long after the date mentioned here.

9. March 21, 1894 (Wednesday).

10. **The Kankakee Gazette**, November 14, 1895.



The men of the new Irish parish organized a social and mutual improvement club on December 12, 1895<sup>11</sup> with the following officers: President, William Lamb; Vice President, T. F. McAnally; Secretary, T. F. Donovan and Treasurer, A. A. Anderson.

By 1896 Mass was being offered daily in St Patrick church at even o'clock. There was an Altar Boys' Society, a Sunday School and a Ladies' Altar and Rosary Society, which met the first Sunday of each month at 4 p.m.<sup>12</sup>

Father Darcy continued as pastor of St. Patrick Church until his appointment to the pastorate of St. Agatha's Church in Chicago in January 1896. He was succeeded by Reverend William Hackett, a native of Waterford, Ireland.<sup>13</sup>

**The Kankakee Gazette** for December 24, 1897 gives the following account of the first midnight Mass offered at St. Patrick Church:

Christmas day at St. Patrick Church will be inaugurated by a midnight Mass. At 5 o'clock and 8 o'clock morning Mass will be celebrated. At 10:30 Solemn High Mass and a sermon. A beautiful new crib was placed in the Church yesterday. The altar decorations for Christmas are beautiful . . . .

Although the country was passing through a serious business depression at this time Father Hackett, through the generous efforts of the parishioners, was able to reduce the debt on the Church property. The cooperation of the people is shown in instances like the following.<sup>14</sup>

St. Patrick Church bazaar closed last Saturday. Silver service was won by Miss Sarah Burns. She received 5890½ votes. Over \$500 worth of votes were deposited in her booth during the evening. Miss McGrail of the Hospital was second. She received 1580 votes. Miss DeLong of Bradley finished third. The total amount brought in by this contest was \$1042.50. Father Hackett is not able to state just what the entire proceeds will be but he

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11. *Ibid.*, Dec. 12, 1895.

12. See **Kankakee City Directory**, 1896.

13. See **Diamond Jubilee of the Archdiocese of Chicago**, pp. 560-561.

14. **Kankakee Daily Gazette**, Monday, October 31, 1898.



thinks something over \$3000 will be realized, which was double what he expected to raise . . . .

In the year 1900 Father Hackett opened a mission at Bradley, which is the present St. Joseph parish. This mission was attended from St. Patrick's until 1904, when it was organized into a separate parish. During this period Father Daniel Lanegan,<sup>15</sup> James A. Ryan and Matthew Hanley<sup>16</sup> successively assisted the pastor at St. Patrick.

Reverend William Hackett died on Sunday, July 17, 1902. He was born at Mt. Mellerat, Ireland. He received his classical education at the famous Mt. Melleray Seminary and was ordained at St. John College, Waterford. He spent most of his early years at St. Pius Church in Chicago, where he had a host of devoted friends. Later he was transferred to St. John Church in Chicago and the remarkable fidelity with which he discharged his duties while in this mission convinced the parishioners that he was a model disciple of the Master whose insignia he wore. In 1896, the late Archbishop Patrick A. Feehan realized his ability and promoted him to the pastorate at St. Patrick Kankakee.

The funeral services for Father Hackett were held in the parish church which he had served so well. Bishop Peter Muldoon, assisted by Fathers Lanegan and Granger, and a number of the clergy from out of the city, read the Mass and conducted the funeral service.

The united choir of St. Rose, St. Patrick, St. Mary and Polish Churches sang the Mass. A special train over the Illinois Central railroad left Kankakee at 1:09 p. m. on Tuesday, July 22, 1902, for Chicago where the remains were buried in Mt. Calvary cemetery. About 150 people accompanied the remains to its last resting place.

Father Hackett was succeeded by Reverend T. J. Whalen. Father Whalen was born in Chicago in 1866 and received his preparatory education in St. Ignatius academy. He then completed his studies at St. Mary Seminary, Baltimore, Maryland. He was ordained in 1889 and took a post graduate course in the Catholic University at Washington, D. C. In

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15. He afterwards served as assistant at Nativity and St. Cecilia's Chicago; and as pastor of St. Anne's, Chicago Heights and St. Carthage, Chicago.

16. See **Kankakee City Directory**, 1902, 1903 and 1904 for the names of these assistants.



1891 he was assigned as assistant priest to the Church of All Saints in Chicago and acted in this capacity until he was appointed in August 1902 to St. Patrick parish in Kankakee, Illinois.

Father Whalen, besides being an educated and highly cultured priest, was a literary man. For a number of years he was associate editor of **The New World** which is published in Chicago. **The Kankakee Republican**<sup>17</sup> describes him as

... small in height and with classic, clear cut features . . . .

and in his obituary notice this same paper<sup>18</sup> wrote

... owing to the weak condition of his lungs, Father Whalen had been allowed to wear whiskers by a special dispensation . . . .

Father Whalen's one ambition seemed to be to unite the members of his parish in a common bond of friendship.

His funeral took place from St. Patrick Church on Monday, November 23, 1903. One hundred and fifty priests were present in the sanctuary including Archbishop James E. Quigley of Chicago.

The Solemn Requiem Mass was sung by Father McLaughlin of Clinton, Iowa, an intimate friend of Father Whalen. Father Dorney, of Chicago acted as deacon of the Mass. The united choirs of St. Patrick, St. Rose and St. Mary Church, sang. Misses Agnes O'Hara and Jewell Smith sang a duet "One Sweetly Solemn Thought." A quartet composed of Mrs. Plant, Miss Margaret Burns, S. S. Espenship and Jewell Smith also sang a religious hymn. The sermon was preached by Archbishop James E. Quigley. At 11:30 a. m. on November 23, 1903 the remains were taken to Chicago for interment in Mt. Calvary cemetery.

On January 1, 1904<sup>19</sup> the Congregation of St. Bernard in Chicago, Illinois, voiced an unanimous and deep regret over the departure of Reverend J. P. Aylward. He had received his appointment to succeed Father T. J. Whalen as pastor of St. Patrick parish in Kankakee, Illinois. During a comparatively short span of years, his leadership there had

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17. August 4, 1902.

18. November 24, 1903. See also **The Sunday-Record Herald**, Chicago, Nov. 22, 1903.

19. See Bateman and Selby, *op. cit.*, vol. 11, p. 792.



become supreme. His people's faith in him unquestioned. **The Daily Sun**<sup>20</sup> wrote concerning him:

... He leaves St. Bernard's parish with the best wishes of the entire congregation, and his untiring energy and zealous endeavor are sure to make him loved by his new flock . . . .

Father Aylward was born in Nova Scotia at Halifax September 24, 1865. He was by nature and inclination a son of the Church and of such brilliant promise that his early training was entrusted to the faculty at the Great Seminary of St. Sulpice in Montreal, Canada. Ordained to the priesthood in 1890 he served three years as assistant pastor of the Church of the Nativity, 37th Street and Union Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. After which he was assigned to St. Bernard Church, Stewart Avenue and 66th Street, Englewood, Illinois.

In January 1904 Father Aylward issued a letter which reads as follows:<sup>21</sup>

My dear Parishioners:—I desire to render sincere thanks to every member of the parish for whatever part you took in the Liquidating Fund, which was such a success. The handsome sum realized will be devoted solely to the end for which the fund was instituted. To accomplish so much in one year means, I know, much generosity and sacrifice, a trait, which has ever been the characteristic of the people of St. Patrick's. May I hope for a continuation of the same, for the more closely pastors and people are united in good works the more abundantly will their undertakings be blessed and their ends accomplished and the more perfectly will all Christians be united in fraternal charity, and the more widely and firmly will the Kingdom of Christ be established . . . .

Father Aylward lived to see the parish grow from seventy-two families, which was the number on record when he took charge of it, to one hundred and five families before death called him on October 8, 1905. He had brought to St. Patrick's a remarkable zeal and great disinterestedness of soul. One of his most ambitious dreams was a parochial

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20. *Ibid.*, 1. c.

21. See **Rectory Files**. This letter is in the **Account Book** containing the Reports sent annually to The Chancery office in Chicago, Illinois.



school for the children of the parish. He was not to live to see this hope realized however, but his dream was to be made a reality by his friend and successor, Reverend John T. Bennett. Each day during his life Father Aylward completed as far as was in his power, the tasks assigned to him. He did all things in perfect order. **The Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois**<sup>22</sup> says of him:

His silvery, poetic eloquence voiced the eternal truths, and pointed the way to practical useful citizenship. He had the heart of the ages, the smile of a little child, and the purpose of one inspired to do his Master's work. To all whom he met upon the great highway of life he imparted something of the strength, gentleness and tenderness which lifted his own existence into the luminous and imperishable outline . . . .

Father Aylward died suddenly during the night of October 8, 1905.

**The Evening Democrat**<sup>23</sup> carried the following account of the funeral:

. . . The funeral of Reverend John P. Aylward, late pastor of St. Patrick's Church in this city, was held this morning and was attended by 150 clergymen, friends of the deceased priest including several noted men. Archbishop Quigley of Chicago was here and was a participant in the service. Bishop Muldoon of Chicago was the celebrant of the Requiem Mass and Reverend Father Murray, pastor of the St. Bernard Church of Chicago, delivered the funeral oration . . . Reverend Father McGuire and Reverend Father Machlin, of Chicago, were deacon and sub-deacon. Very Reverend Marsilles [*sic*], president of St. Viator College was archpriest and Reverend Doctor Keohoe, Chicago, was master of ceremonies. The pall-bearers were members of the local order of Knights of Columbus. They were E. A. Lecour, J. W. Shields, John Drury, John Carlin, Doctor Carron, Hugh Mulaney and W. A. McGillis.

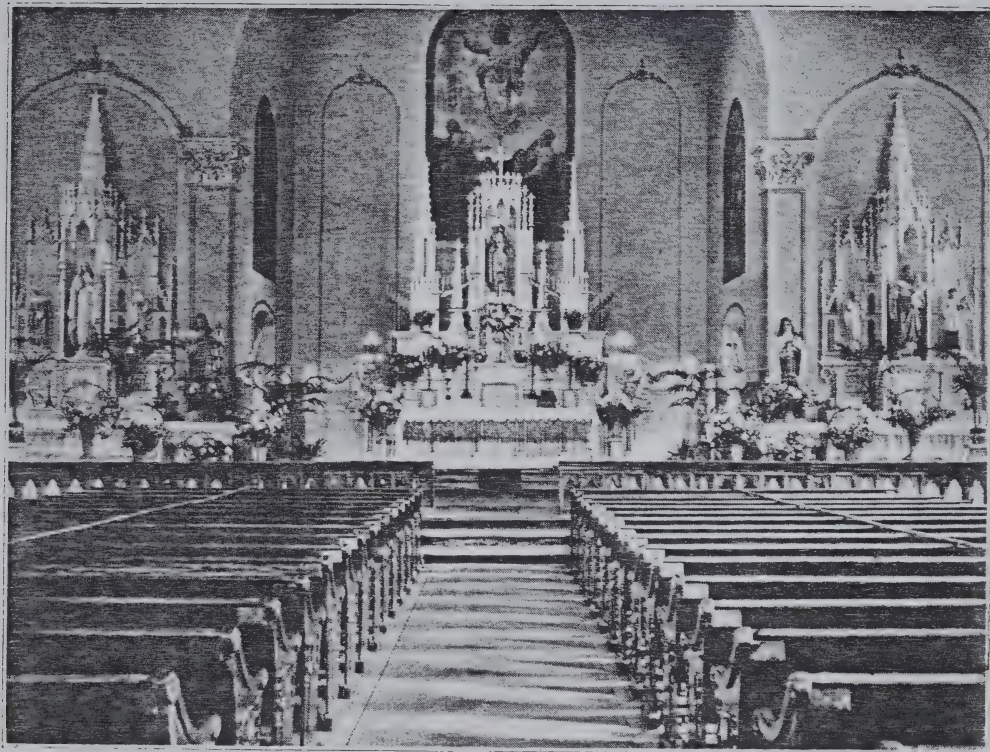
The music was furnished by twenty male voices selected from the St. Viator College choir, and the choirs of the different Catholic Churches in the city.

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22. p. 792.

23. October 12, 1905. See also the **Scrap Book** of Miss K. O'Neil, 945 E. Hickory St., Kankakee, Illinois.





Interior  
of  
**ST. PATRICK CHURCH**  
Prior to the Installation  
of the  
Liturgical Altar



A special train left the Illinois Central station at 1 p.m. for Chicago carrying the remains and the funeral party of 300 persons. The burial took place in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Chicago.

A new and promising chapter opened in the history of St. Patrick parish in Kankakee through the appointment of Reverend John T. Bennett to succeed his life-long and gifted friend, Father J. P. Aylward. The circumstances surrounding this were unique in that it was the second time that Father Bennet had been appointed to a position that had formerly been held by Father Aylward.

Father Bennett, who was later sent to St. Basil's Church in Chicago where he is at present (1943) acting as pastor, is distantly connected with the Irish patriot, Robert Emmett. His parents, John and Catherine (nee Healy) Bennett shared the pioneer life of Lee County. They witnessed and aided the march of civilization on its way to the western frontier. Father John Bennett was born in Auburn, Cayuga County, New York. He received his education in the public and parochial high schools of Auburn, New York. Next he took a course at Manhattan College, New York City, a year in the study of French at Three Rivers Canada and a year at St. Viator College in Bourbonnais, Illinois. A final course of four years at St. Mary Seminary, Baltimore, Maryland, resulted in his ordination to the priesthood by His Excellency, Archbishop Patrick A. Feehan on July 15, 1895.

Soon after his ordination Father Bennett was sent as assistant pastor of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Chicago succeeding Father Aylward with whom he thus became first associated. While at Blessed Sacrament parish the work of Father Bennett was extensive and vital in importance. It included frequent visits to the John Worthly Reform School in which Warden Sloan found his help most effective in dealing with the delinquents.<sup>24</sup> Here also he had charge of the Pavillon Small-pox Hospital which he visited almost daily for eight months during the epidemic of 1895, besides occasional visits to the Isolation Hospital and some evangelizing among the workmen along the drainage canal, then in the process of construction.

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24. **St. Patrick Convent Annals**, March 8, 1916. Hereinafter this will be cited as **St. P. C. A.** Vol. I or II as is required.



Father Bennett remained at Blessed Sacrament parish in Chicago eight and one-half years when he was sent by his superiors to a larger field, St. Jarlath Church, where he remained for four years. During two years of this interval he had charge of the Catholic patients in the Cook County Hospital, the Detention Hospital and seven larger hospitals of that neighborhood.

He wrote several useful works including a Church guide to the city of Chicago, a devotional work on the Rosary and a series of pictorial sermons, all profusely illustrated.

On October 17, 1905, the late Archbishop James E. Quigley appointed him to the pastorate of St. Patrick parish, Kankakee, Illinois, which had been left vacant by the death of his friend, Reverend J. P. Aylward. Soon after his arrival in Kankakee Father Bennett wrote:<sup>25</sup>

During my short stay at St. Viateur's I often walked the shady avenues of your city and thought how agreeable a place it would be in which to live, but it is with diffidence that I accept the charge left vacant by my dear friend, Father Aylward. May that friendship be my key to the affections of his bereaved parishioners!

The ten and one-half years Father Bennett spent as pastor of Kankakee saw an expansion realized which had been the dream of Father Aylward. The Church and church property were rehabilitated; the well equipped St. Patrick grade school with kindergarten, playground and gymnasium became a reality. He also secured a convent for the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross who were to teach in the grade school; and a rectory for the priests.

A memorable event and of great interest to the people of the St. Patrick parish in Kankakee, Illinois was the laying of the corner stone of the St. Patrick grade school. Very Reverend J. P. O'Mahoney, C.S.V., president of the St. Viator college, delivered the sermon for the occasion in his usual eloquent manner. Following his sermon Father Bennett recited briefly the accomplishments of the parish. He also read the names of the donors to the school fund, a list of which, with the parish history, was written on sheep skin and put into an indestructible copper box and enclosed in the corner stone.

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25. Bateman and Selby, *op. cit.*, vol. II., p. 814.





*St. Patrick*  
GRADE SCHOOL





The trowel with which the corner stone was laid was then blessed by Right Reverend G. M. Legris, D. D. This was a very pretty ceremony in itself. Monsignor Legris was assisted by Reverend J. P. Parker of Chebanse, Illinois and Reverend A. Koytek, pastor of St. Stanislaus Church, Kankakee, Illinois. The trowel of gold with an ivory handle, was the gift of Mrs. Joseph Peschel, and was carried to the altar in a canopied receptacle borne by four little girls dressed in white and followed by twenty more girls also dressed in white and wearing white veils.

At the completion of this service which had taken place in the parish church a procession formed and marched to the school. This was lead by the altar boys, the first of whom carried a large crucifix, then came the little girls in white, who were followed by the visiting clergy.

When they arrived at the school, which was decorated in American flags and small evergreens, Monsignor Legris laid the stone and blessed it. Immediately following the blessing the procession again returned to the church for Solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The school was formerly dedicated on June 7. The Ode<sup>26</sup> for the Dédication which is appended here was written by Sister Mary Wilfrid, La. Motte, S. L. at the request of Father Bennett. LaSalle and Hennepin were made the central figures at the request of Father Bennett who always felt that Hennepin must have read Mass on or near the site of Kankakee when he and LaSalle had stopped at Kankakee on their trips of exploration:

Men scorn the dreamer; yet from dreams arise  
The noblest projects earth has ever known;  
If Hearts are righteous, lofty enterprise  
Is planned and mapped within the dreamer's zone.  
Upon this spot three centuries ago,  
Stood Hennepin with LaSalle by his side  
Noting with wistful eyes, the valley's glow,  
In all the flowered beauty of springtime.

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26. Original in Archives Loretto Motherhouse, Nerinx P. O., Ky. Copy in Office of Principal St. Patrick High School, Kankakee, Illinois.



Untrammelled nature at her best appeared  
And seemed to indicate a favorite site,  
Whereon a lovely city might be reared  
To grow and spread beneath a sky so bright.  
So dreamed the pioneer in far-off day,  
While Hennepin with priestly ardor burned  
To see the cross erected by the way,  
And native eyes upon the image turned.

Years sped again before the vision grew  
And gradually, as God ordained, took form.  
The roadways of the future passing thro'  
The Valley, waked and echoed like a storm.  
Full soon the woodman's axe with sturdy stroke  
Disturbed the feathered choirs of the vale.  
Then saw and hatchet shaped the fallen oak  
For simple home walls, 'gainst a northern gale.

But even home and ample larders filled,  
Cannot to souls their needed food supply;  
Men's inward voice cannot, for long, be stilled  
When unto Heaven it lifts a pleading cry.  
A house to worship God;—his law to teach;  
A church spire rising over home and mart,  
This was the dream to which their soarings reach  
To satisfy each humbly believing heart.

And more than this came true. From overseas  
Good men, not losing faith, their fortune sought.  
Tho' poor and laboring, their generous fees,  
Were first unto the early Church-fund brought.  
And now behold where several shining spires  
Twixt Heaven and earth the saving cross uplift  
And every Catholic heart with angel choirs  
In grateful tones acknowledges the gift.

The crowning of our dream today we hail—  
St. Patrick's School erected; soon to be  
The wellspring of high hopes, which cannot fail,  
When children gathered neath its roof, we see—  
As school, implied the teachers—we are blest  
In welcoming good Nerinecx' daughters here,  
Of all Kentucky products rightest, best,  
As of the Founder's works to him most dear



Our theme should be, today, of gratitude  
For blessings bounteous from God's hand;  
It comes at last, in culminating good,  
Proving fine seed was planted in this land,  
By those whose faith and zeal have done it well,  
And those who followed, watering with their tears  
Till we the story of their deeds can tell  
And point to monuments of fruitful years.

God keep all souls in His eternal peace,  
Who helped to build up, what hath made us great;  
God bless the living friends, who never cease  
To lend their aid, while for reward they wait!  
God guide the future labors well begun,  
Under the blessing Mother Church imparts—  
God prosper what the strenuous past has won,  
And in His Kingdom's bliss unite our hearts!

In civic life Father Bennett was not slack, as the board of trustees of the Kankakee Public Library will attest.<sup>27</sup> He served as vice president and a most useful member of that body for five years or more. At the laying of the corner stone of the Court House he led the prayer and it was under his direction that the historic painting of Hennepin and La-Salle<sup>28</sup> exploring the Kankakee river was suggested and executed.

As a last testimonial of his zeal he left the beautiful bronze statue of St. Patrick which now occupies the pedestal over the portal of the St. Patrick grade school.

Nearly one thousand people saw the unveiling of this statue. Hundreds of people had flocked into the parish church to attend the services which preceded this ceremony and to hear the farewell sermon of Father John T. Bennett. The remainder of the crowd had awaited the ceremony in the yard near the school building. At 11:30 a.m. the services in the church were finished. The choir boys followed by Father Bennett marched from the church across the street to the front of the school building. The congregation followed and massed itself closely around the priest, servers and the choir, in order to witness the brief ceremony which was

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27. See **Records** in the Kankakee Public Library, Kankakee, Illinois.

28. See **Records** in the Court House, Kankakee, Illinois, Office of the County Clerk.



to place the bronze statue of the beneficent apostle of the Irish race on its pedestal in front of the school which had been the dream and the hope of many of the former pastors.

Father Bennett called forward all of the men and boys whose first name was Patrick, and invited them to assist in pulling the strings which were to remove the green veil from the face of the statue. The following persons who were donors had been asked to assist in purchasing the statue and later to help to pull the strings at the unveiling: Patrick Reilly, M. D.; W. Patrick Cannon, M. D.; Patrick Carlin, Patrick Cloonan, Patrick Carey, Patrick Murphy, Patrick Clifford, Patrick Lonegran, Patrick Toohey, J. Patrick Burns, T. Patrick Collins, Mrs. Patrick Donovan, J. Patrick O'Brien, J. Patrick Hickey, Patrick Beauchamp, Patrick Dolan, Patrick McKay, Patrick Keliher, F. Patrick Somers, R. Patrick Lonergan, J. Patrick McKeowan, Patrick Hearty, Patrick Collins, J. Patrick Hanrahan. Of the number who had been invited to assist in the unveiling only about twelve were able to be present at the actual ceremony and they were led by Doctor Patrick Cannon.<sup>29</sup>

The bronze statue was from the atelier of the Pontifical Institute of Christian Art. At the unveiling a large American flag floated over the head of the image. At either end of the stone, upon which the statue stands, was the green flag of Ireland. In the farewell remarks that Father Bennett made that morning he expressed his gratitude not only to the parishioners of St. Patrick Church, but to his neighbors of every class and color, including the various ministers of the local churches; the city press, the trade unions, whose members encouraged him so much in the work of building the school, the merchants and manufacturers, the city and county officials with whom he had labored in making Kankakee a better and a brighter place. To the medical fraternity in particular, with whom he labored in charity work among the needy in various local institutions, he expressed especial gratitude.

By way of concluding his remarks he recommended to his parishioners the welfare of the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross and the splendid work he said they had accomplished in so short a time at the new grade school.

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29. See **Kankakee Daily Republican**, Monday, March 13, 1916.



The following poem written by Frank Poeton<sup>30</sup> is quoted here because it was inspired by the unveiling ceremony:

St. Patrick, who in days of old,  
Kindled the hearts of Erin's race  
With love that ever warmer grows,  
Across the years, athwart the space  
Thou still doth lead;  
And as thy statue here we raise  
In evil days of world-wide strife  
We pray the blessed truths thou taught  
May win all men from death to right.

For thou, though strongly in thy veins  
Did course the conq'ring Roman blood,  
Saw haughty king and peasant merged  
In one God-given brotherhood,  
As did Our Lord.  
All are as one in heaven's sight!  
The rich, the poor, the proud, the weak!  
Thy word does shake the mighty seat,  
Doth lift the lowly and the meek.

Enthralled no more, but freemen we  
Give thanks to God for liberty;  
And here unite in solemn vow  
To stand for right and honor thee  
Who broke our chains.  
So in the name of One in Three  
Betokened here in Thy Shamrock  
We pledge to live in amity  
And feed the lambskins of Thy flock.

In March 1916 His Excellency, Most Reverend George Cardinal Mundelein called Father Bennett from St. Patrick in Kankakee to the St. Basil Church in Chicago. The parishioners of St. Patrick presented him with a purse amounting to \$300, in gold, as a token of appreciation of the work he had done while pastor of St. Patrick parish. Reverend John Joseph Corbett, C.S.V., president of St. Viator college, made the speech of presentation in **Hennepin Hall** which was then located in the basement of the grade school where the Industrial Arts department is now (1943) located. More than

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30. *Ibid.*, p. 12.



one thousand people were present for the farewell ceremony which took place on the evening of March 16, 1916.<sup>31</sup> The **Kankakee Daily Republican** of this same date wrote of him:

In Father Bennett's life work most sacred relationships are established in which the priest as a friend and adviser of the family has their complete confidence and constitutes a bond which is hard to break without tearing the heart strings. **The Kankakee Daily Republican** with thousands of other friends of Father John T. Bennett wishes him God speed and success in his work at St. Basil's, which Church will receive a priest, and a man who will put his heart and soul into whatever he undertakes. He is a tireless worker . . . .

Reverend John F. Ryan, pastor of St. Mel's Church, Garfield Park, Chicago was appointed as successor to Reverend John T. Bennett.

By way of concluding the story of the work of Father John T. Bennett it seems appropriate here to quote an article<sup>32</sup> written by Mrs. Constance Granger Anderson, who was one of the members of the first grade school graduation:

Were I someday to undertake the writing of my memories, I am sure that a chapter would be devoted to my early recollections of the brilliant and colorful personality of Father Bennett, a great and indomitable idealist, who saw the fulfillment of one of his most treasured dreams when St. Patrick grade school opened its doors in September 1914 to its first young neophytes eager for knowledge.

The intellectual and spiritual guidance of the children was happily entrusted by Father Bennett to the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross, a choice of great and good fortune for all of us who have enjoyed the privilege of attending St. Patrick school at some period during our years of scholastic training. My own gratitude is genuine for the happy circumstance that placed me under the wise and benign tutelage of Sister Mary Urban, preceptress of the eighth grade and the first principal of St. Patrick elementary school. All of us loved and revered her deeply, for a character, rich

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31. **Kankakee Republican News**, March 17, 1916.

32. Original Ms. in Office of the Principal, St. Patrick High School, Kankakee, Illinois.



as was hers, in the noblest qualities of heart and soul, could not fail to awaken universal admiration . . . .

Despite my satisfaction with my early school days, I, nevertheless, realize that today's empirical methods are far superior to those of the past. This conviction on my part is doubtless due to my observations of the teaching technique used at St. Patrick grade school today in the classes of my own children. I have been principally impressed with the directness and simplicity of this more modern approach to the problems of pedagogy and its resultant effectiveness.

Needless to say it is not alone the intellectual phase in the development of our schools that should cause our hearts to throb with joy and just pride, splendid as has been our scholastic progress. The spiritual evaluations and moral strength which our young girls and boys are imbibing from their **Alma Mater** will prove to be their greatest assets in the days ahead, when they will, perhaps, be fighting not only for their personal ideals and individual spiritual security, but for the survival of Christian principles and standards in this modern world. Then, indeed, St. Patrick school and its mission will be put to the crucial test, and assuredly shall not be found wanting . . . .

Father Ryan<sup>33</sup> was born in Ireland near Thurles County Tipperary where he made his studies. His classical and theological education was received at St. Patrick college, Thurles. It was in the chapel of this same institution that he was ordained to the priesthood by the famous Archbishop Croke.

Father Ryan left his native city almost immediately after his ordination coming directly to the Archdiocese of Chicago where in the fall of 1899 he was appointed assistant at St. Mel's church, Washington Boulevard and Kildare Avenue. He served here in this capacity until appointed to the pastorate at St. Patrick church in Kankakee. During his administration a new and larger pipe organ was purchased, and \$2,000 of the debt on the church was paid. Thus reducing it to \$15,500.

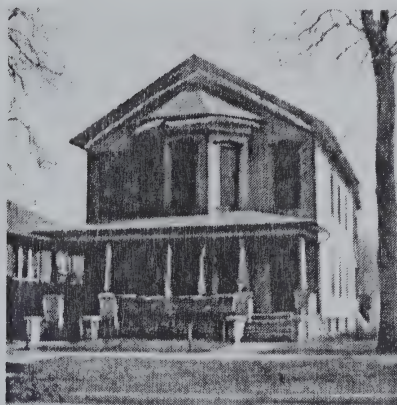
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33. See **S. P. C. A.** Vol. I, under the date April 15, 1917. Also **The New World**, Oct. 22, 1937, November 5, 1937 and July 14, 1939. Father John Ryan became Monsignor Ryan in 1924.



The Chancery Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago announced in April 1917 that Reverend John F. Ryan had been appointed pastor of St. Bernard church in Chicago and that Reverend Henry M. Shea, pastor of the Holy Family church, Chicago would replace him at St. Patrick in Kankakee, Illinois.

This appointment brought Father Shea back to the city of his birth. His classical studies had been made at St. Viator College, Bourbonnais, Illinois. His philosophical and theological courses were made at St. Mary Seminary, Baltimore, Maryland. These were completed in 1898 and in that same



**FIRST CONVENT**



**SECOND CONVENT**

year he was ordained to the priesthood by His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons. Father Shea's first curacy was at St. Mary Church, Riverside, Illinois. He next served at Blessed Sacrament church and acted as the assistant at the Church of St. Thomas, the Apostle in Chicago. In 1914 he was made pastor of Holy Family Church in North Chicago. It was under his direction that the Holy Family church, which was dedicated in May 1916, was built.

During the seven years Father Shea acted as pastor of St. Patrick church, Kankakee, a very important step toward the progress of the parish was taken. He remodeled the rectory in which he had been living making it a suitable convent for the increasing community of Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross, who were teaching the children in the St. Patrick grade school, and who would teach in the new high school which he also built. He, himself, then moved into the





ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL AND CONVENT

1923



house which had been serving as the first convent for the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross. This occupied the site of the present rectory. It was later moved away and the present rectory was moved over to the site which it then occupied. This was done after the new convent at 415 South Indiana Avenue, had been built and the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross were occupying it.

In the fall of 1922 Father Shea opened the parish high school. The new building was not as yet in readiness so the classes were conducted in Room 1 in the grade school building; and in what was at that time called the "Annex." Father Shea did not have the happiness of seeing the first students graduate from the high school which had been his most ambitious dream. He received his appointment to St. Matthew church, Chicago in the summer of 1924 and was succeeded by Reverend Edward J. McNally.

Reverend E. J. McNally was born in Chicago, Illinois on September 14, 1883. In June 1897 he was graduated from the Hannibal School. He attended St. Ignatius School, Chicago, from 1897 to June 1900. He entered St. Charles college, Ellicott City, Maryland in September 1900 and was graduated from that institution in June 1904. He took his philosophy and theology courses at Niagara University, Niagara Falls, New York from September 1904 until June 1909. He was ordained in the Cathedral of the Holy Name in Chicago by the late Most Reverend James E. Quigley, D. D., on June 5, 1909. He read his first Mass in the Church of St. Cecilia, 45th and South Weiss Street, Chicago; and was the first boy from that parish to be ordained to the priesthood. He was assistant at St. Anne church in Chicago from 1909 until 1918, when he was appointed to serve as chaplain to the 350th Infantry, 88th Division in France. On June 5, 1919 he was honorably discharged from the army. Soon afterwards he was appointed to assist at St. Columbanus parish, 71st and Calumet Avenue, Chicago. Here he continued his zealous and untiring efforts until July 1924 when he was made pastor of St. Patrick church, Kankakee, Illinois. In commenting upon Father McNally's transfer to the Kankakee parish **The New World**,<sup>34</sup> Chicago, wrote:

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34. Undated **Clipping**, St. Kevin's Rectory, Chicago, Illinois.





FRONT VIEW OF ST. PATRICK CONVENT



. . . The varied experiences of Father McNally in the multitudinous duties of parish work as assistant at St. Anne's and St. Columbanus churches have made him particularly fitted for the efficient management and supervision of his new and broader field . . . .

Father McNally labored at St. Patrick in Kankakee from July 1924 until June 6, 1931 when His Eminence George Cardinal Mundelein, Archbishop of Chicago appointed him to the pastorate of St. Kevin's Church, Chicago.

Letters and records on file in the Office of the Principal at St. Patrick High School are proofs of the earnestness shown by Father McNally in his efforts to secure State recognition and affiliation for the growing St. Patrick High School. This recognition was fully accomplished by Father McNally in 1928.

The **St. Patrick Convent**<sup>35</sup> **Annals** record the following:

. . . We have found our new pastor, Father McNally, a kind zealous and self-sacrificing friend, always forgetting his own personal convenience when working for the benefit of others . . . .

The Clerics of St. Viator<sup>36</sup> were given charge of the St. Patrick parish in 1931. It seems fitting here to give a brief historical sketch of this community since so many of the clergy in the Archdiocese of Chicago received their first steps along the rugged road to college education at St. Viator; and so many of the men of Kankakee owe the deep seated Faith they have to the lessons taught them at old St. Viator college.

The Clerics of St. Viator, sometimes called Viatorian Fathers, is a modern community founded in the last century by Father Louis J. Querbes, of the Archdiocese of Lyons, France. It was formally approved by the Holy See in 1839 when the Statutes of the Congregation were confirmed and approved by then reigning pontiff, Pope Gregory XVI.

The American Province has its headquarters in Chicago, Illinois. Its houses for formation of younger members are

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35. Vol. II., 1924.

36. Data provided by The Very Reverend Richard J. French, C. S. V., Provincial of the Clerics of St. Viator in the United States of America, Provincial Residence, 6219 Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois.



all close to Chicago, but theologians are sent to its House of Studies at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D. C. or else to Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, or St. Thomas Seminary, Denver, Colorado. Priests and brothers doing graduate work are sent to the best universities in America and in Europe for master's and doctor's degrees.

The community has two main ideals—sanctity and scholarship. These ideals were admirably delimited by the great Archbishop Spalding in these words: "The Church needs today the saintly priests who are scholars and the scholarly priests who are Saints." All members of the Community must obtain a college degree of the highest rating, and most of them study for advanced degrees. The percentage of graduate degrees among them is very high as every opportunity is given to obtain the same.

The priests and brothers are associated with institutions of higher learning—high schools, colleges, universities, and in most fields of learning, including the industrial arts, and social welfare work. They also take charge of parishes and preach missions. In the Foreign Mission Field, the American Province is associated with the Canadian Province, and helps to maintain educational projects and schools in Manchoukuo. Only volunteers undertake work outside of the United States.

Reverend William Bergin, C. S. V. was the first Viatorian to serve as pastor of St. Patrick parish. His assistant was Reverend Thomas E. Fitzpatrick, C. S. V. Father Bergin was born in Ireland in 1870. At an early age he came to the United States of America. He joined the Clerics of St. Viator and pronounced his first vows in 1896. In 1902 he was ordained to the priesthood. Between the years 1902 and 1931 his career was a varied one. He was professor at St. Viator College in Bourbonnais teaching classes in philosophy and in public speaking. For a time he served as dean of men at the St. Viator College, Bourbonnais, Illinois. During the World War I he served as an army chaplain under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus. Ill health and the desire, on his own part, to return to the teaching profession resulted in his transfer from St. Patrick parish to the teaching field in 1932. Since 1938 he has been associated with His Excellency, Most Reverend Bernard J. Sheils in the Catholic Youth Organization movement.<sup>37</sup>

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37. Data provided from the Provincial Archives of the Clerics of St. Viator, Chicago, Illinois.





LITURGICAL ALTAR



Reverend Thomas E. Fitzpatrick, the first assistant to Father Berfin, was appointed to succeed him in 1932. Father Fitzpatrick was known to the parishioners of St. Patrick church long before he came to the parish as assistant priest in 1931. He had been an outstanding athlete at St. Viator college during his student days and at the time had made many friends in the city of Kankakee. He set to work at the problem which confronted him with the determination of the athlete of yester-years and a confidence in God that showed the Faith of the man and the zeal of the priest. A very heavy debt rested on the parish. Father Fitzpatrick set to work to liquidate this debt. In 1942 when his superiors transferred him to the pastorate of St. Viator church, Chicago, Illinois, he left St. Patrick parish in Kankakee without a debt and with \$31,926.22 on hand.

During the years 1933-1940 many material improvements were made in the St. Patrick parish. A fund was started and completed for the purchase of kneeling pads for the kneelers in the church. The liturgical altar was installed in 1938.

St. Viator college in Bourbonnais closed its doors in 1938 after many years of service in the cause of Catholic education. The vice president and dean of studies, Reverend Richard J. French, C. S. V., was sent to act as first assistant to Father Fitzpatrick. In July 1938 Father Fitzpatrick was to suffer a heavy loss. But his loss and the loss of St. Patrick parish was to be the gain of the Clerics of St. Viator in the Province of the United States of America. The Very Reverend Paul Farley, C. S. V. of Brussels, Belgium, and the Superior General of the Clerics of St. Viator, was making the visitation of the community in the United States. In July 1938 he appointed Father French the Provincial of the Clerics of St. Viator in the United States. The new provincial was, at that time, forty-nine years of age. He was born in Oxon, England in 1890. At the age of sixteen, while attending a Jesuit high school in England he became a convert to the Catholic Faith. He left England to attend Bourget College in Montreal, Canada where, in 1908, he joined the Clerics of St. Viator. He was transferred to St. Viator college, Bourbonnais, Illinois in 1917. He obtained his degree of Master of Arts from the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., and his Doctor of Philosophy from the Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois.

The Very Reverend Richard J. French, C. S. V. was ordained by His Eminence Most Reverend George Cardinal Mundelein in 1921. He has a brother a priest, Reverend



Ronald French of South Beloit, Illinois, and another brother, Reginald, who resides in Montreal, Canada. Father French succeeded the Very Reverend J. P. O'Mahoney, C.S.V., who acted as provincial of the Clerics of St. Viator in the United States of America for ten years.

In Kankakee, and especially in the parish of St. Patrick, Father French had endeared himself to the hearts of all who knew him. **The Patrician**<sup>38</sup> states:

... He was all things to all men and certainly one of God's gentlemen. Of him it can be said that he was one of nature's noblemen, whose nobility bore the imprint of God's grace. At St. Patrick we shall miss him . . . we shall remember Father French always as a priestly gentleman and a gentlemanly priest . . .

Reverend L. McMenamon, C.S.V. was appointed to succeed Father French as first assistant at St. Patrick parish in September<sup>39</sup> 1939.

In September 1938 a new step in the march of progress in the parish was decided upon, when Father Fitzpatrick decided to introduce woodworking, mechanical drawing and other courses in Industrial Arts in the St. Patrick high school. An active committee of men from the parish agreed to sponsor the venture. The following<sup>40</sup> is the list of contributors:

D. J. Holwell, Dr. Anthony, J. A. Blatchford, George Parkinson, Dr. L. M. Kelly, W. Eckenstein, John Bernfeld, George Granger, Dr. Hartman, E. E. Mortell, J. L. Mortell, L. E. Beckman, B. L. Fitzgerald, A. E. Kerger, A. E. Inglesh, Eva L. Minor, Jos. Morella, Dr. M. E. White, Leslie C. Small, Carlos Producing Company, Turk Furniture Company, N. J. Ziener, A. L. Hattenburg, Romy Hammes, G. W. Boyd, F. Salkeld, C. A. Kribs, Harry Yeates, Henry Mackin, Irwin Gray, John Wheeler, A. J. Byron, City Ice and Fuel Company, Arthur Beckman, J. B. Rose, Florence Stove Company, C. Babst, J. W. Mortell, Jr., M. L. Clancy, Frank Reuter, Harry Reuter, J. P. Hickey, Carl Zeller, W. A. Kraus, Mrs. K. LaMontagne, Walter Ward, Ralph Farmer, Kankakee

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38. July 23, 1939.

39. *Ibid.*, September 10, 1939.

40. On file in the Parish Rectory Office, St. Patrick Rectory, Kankakee, Illinois. See also **The Patrician**, September 11, 1938, September 25, 1938, October 9, 1938.





OUTDOOR CRIB  
of  
1940



Water Company, Harry Topping, Claude Granger, S. E. Boudreau, R. Erdlitz, George Morgan, Gus Dandelles, B. T. Costello, William Brown, Sam Shapiro, George Ravens, Frank Schatzle, Ed. Gerrity and B. W. Alpiner. The following Kroehler employees donated power machinery and labor for the installation of the work benches: Fred Ersclair, Harold Sawyer, Tony Rittmanic, Chester Gifford, Oliver LaFrance, Wendel Gerber and Carl McFarland.

Mr. Leo Styer, a graduate of the Stout Institute of Menominee, Michigan, taught this department until June 1942 when he was succeeded by Reverend Edward Haungs, C.S.V., also a graduate of Stout Institute, with a membership in **Epislon Pi Tau** National Honorary Fraternity of Industrial Education.

On Friday, October 28, 1938,<sup>41</sup> Mr. Robert Quick, the assistant concert master of the Chicago Symphony orchestra was the guest of the department of music at St. Patrick school. The program contributed toward the aesthetic culture and pleasure not only of the parishioners but also of the people of the city of Kankakee, Illinois.

The first outdoor Christmas Crib was erected by Father Fitzpatrick prior to December 25, 1939 and has since been erected annually in the grotto ground between the parish rectory and the St. Patrick church.

On the evening of April 26,<sup>42</sup> 1940 another step forward was taken in the cultural progress for which Father Fitzpatrick ever strove, when Miss Anastasia Schleuter, a former graduate of Webster College, Webster Groves, Missouri, who was considered the outstanding pianist in the Junior Symphony contest conducted at the St. Louis Women's Club, St. Louis, Missouri, in 1937, played for the Kankakee public in the St. Patrick auditorium. This program was under the direction of the department of music at St. Patrick school.

On this same program the St. Patrick vested choir, which for nine years rendered more beautiful and inspiring the church services in St. Patrick church, made its first appearance before the public of the city. When the Congregational Liturgical choir was organized in September 1942 the boys' vested choir was discontinued.

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41. *The Patrician*, October 23, 1938.

42. *Ibid.*, April 25, 1940.



In September 1940 an additional teacher was needed in the St. Patrick high school. The Very Reverend Richard J. French, C.S.V., provincial of the Clerics of St. Viator appointed Brother Gerard LaMarre, C.S.V., to the vacancy. Brother LaMarre was born on May 7, 1907 in Bourbonnais, Illinois. He attended St. Viator college from 1913 to 1928. Before coming to St. Patrick high school Brother LaMarre held teaching positions in the St. Viator academy in St. Viator college, Bourbonnais, from 1924 until 1930; the Fournier Institute, Lemont, Illinois, from 1930 to 1931; Cathedral Boys' high school, Springfield, Illinois, from 1931 until 1940. During the years 1937 and 1938 he served as secretary of the Illinois Chemical Society.

In November 1940 through the interest of the Veterans' Council of Foreign Wars and the American Legion, and through the energetic work of John Holland, local attorney and veteran, the parish high school came into the possession of an outside flag pole and flag. On November 11, Armistice Day, after a special Mass at eight o'clock in the St. Patrick parish church the flag was blessed and at eleven o'clock the dedication ceremony took place under the direction of the St. Patrick Boy Scout Troop assisted by a Committee of War Veterans. Mayor Albert Hattenburg made the presentation. The flag was hoisted for the first time by the St. Patrick Boy Scout Troop.<sup>43</sup>

During the year 1941 the high school library and industrial arts department were enlarged and renovated and further equipped. Provisions were made by Father Fitzpatrick for courses in bench metal and electricity, which were to be added to the mechanical drawing and woodwork department of the high school. New maroon velvet drapes were purchased for the stage in the parish auditorium. An up-to-date movie projector was obtained to further visual education and entertainment for both grade and high school and for the people of the parish. The heating plants in all of the parish buildings were repaired and considerably improved in operation by the installment of new attachments. A new exhaust fan capable of circulating air in the parish church was installed in the east wall of the church. In addition to all this \$10,000 of the parish debt was paid and the site to the north of the St. Patrick grade school was purchased for further expansion.

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43. *The Patrician*, November 10, 1940.



Michael L. Clancy in "A Parish Tribute" to Father Fitzpatrick wrote:<sup>44</sup>

. . . By way of statistics may I mention that there have been 527 marriages, 948 baptisms of which 189 were converts. This alone speaks volumes for his untiring efforts, also witness the growth of the Holy Name Society, the Altar and Rosary, etc. . . .

Although most parish priests confine their activities more or less strictly to religious work, Father Fitzpatrick has begun the Scouts, both the Boy and the Cub, and the Young People's Club . . .

During the first years Father Fitzpatrick was at St. Patrick he had organized the "Kankakee Catholic Forum and Study Club." The first officers for this club were: president, A. L. Granger; vice president, Zepher Duchesne; treasurer, Anthony Hodapp; recording secretary, Bernice Matthews; corresponding secretary, Genevieve Reilly; librarian, Mrs. Walter Schneider; publicity, Annette Boudreau, and membership, Nan Brophy.<sup>45</sup>

This organization was under the direction of the late Reverend W. J. R. Maguire, C.S.V. Several noted speakers were on the season's roster. Among these were Christopher Hollis, then teaching at the University of Notre Dame, Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen, Doctor Jerome Kerwin, of the University of Chicago and others.

When higher superiors called Father Fitzpatrick from St. Patrick in Kankakee to the pastorate at St. Viator in Chicago, the city as well as the parish paid tribute to him. Mr. Albert Mayer, the City Editor for **The Kankakee Republican News** wrote of him:<sup>46</sup> "His loss will be felt not only by the St. Patrick parish, but by the entire city." The Mayor of Kankakee, Albert Hattenburg<sup>47</sup> said: "We regret very much losing this very fine priest and diplomat."

At eight o'clock on the evening of July 13, 1942 the community of Kankakee and the members of the St. Patrick parish held a reception in the Knights of Columbus Hall as

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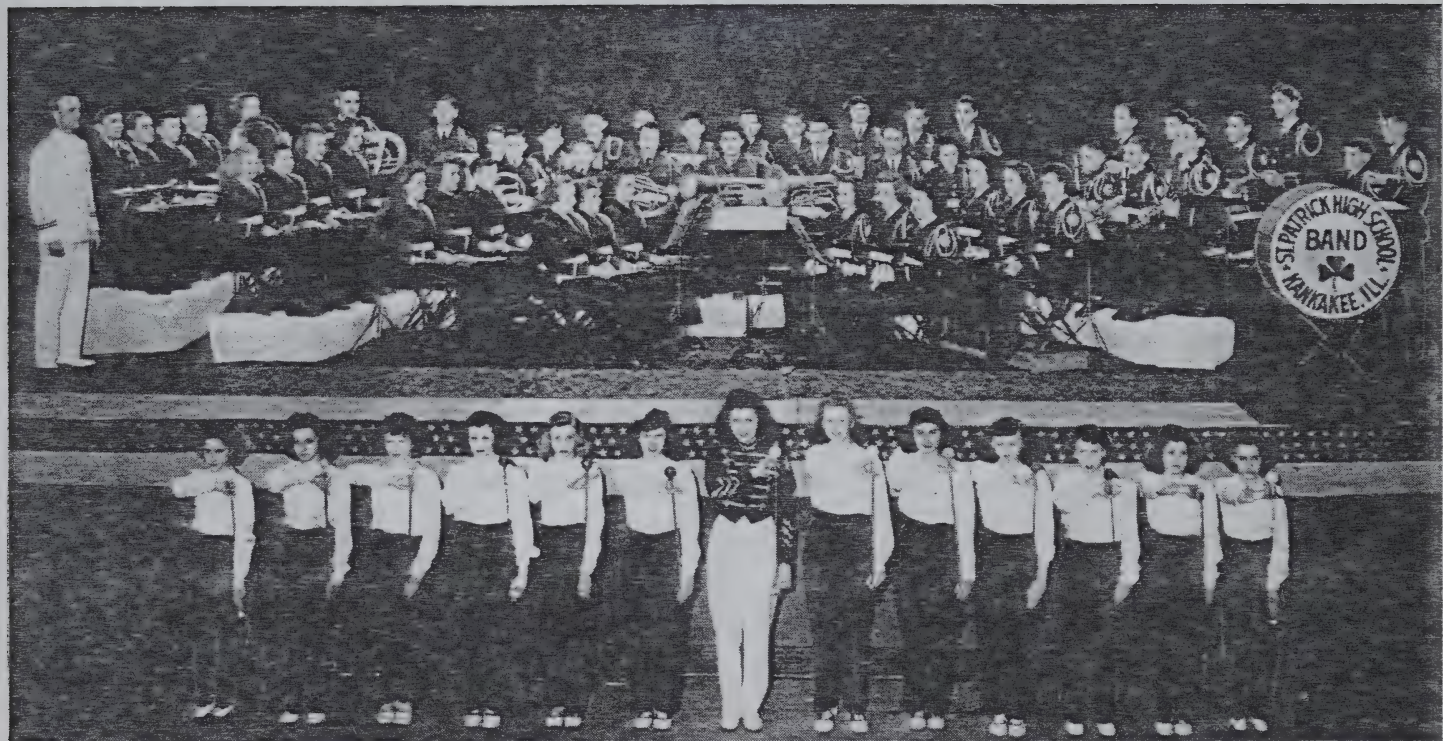
44. *Ibid.*, July 12, 1942.

45. *Ibid.*, December 1935.

46. *Ibid.*, July 12, 1942.

47. *Ibid.*, l. c.





ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL BAND



a farewell tribute to Father T. E. Fitzpatrick, who had given a decade of years of service to St. Patrick parish, and during that time had paid off a debt of \$68,000.

The Most Reverend Samuel A. Stritch appointed Reverend James A. Lowney, C.S.V., to succeed Father Fitzpatrick as pastor of St. Patrick church in July 1942. Father Lowney was born at Butte, Montana, in 1890. He pronounced his vows as a Cleric of St. Viator in 1907 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1917. He taught at Columbus college, Chamberlain, South Dakota, from 1917 until 1922. From 1921 until 1924 he acted as pastor of the St. James church in Chamberlain, South Dakota. From 1924 until 1938, the year of the closing of St. Viator college, Bourbonnais, Illinois, he acted as professor of philosophy in this institution. In 1938 he was chosen as the delegate to the General Chapter of the Clerics of St. Viator which was held in Brussels, Belgium. In 1938 he went as assistant pastor at St. Robert Bellarmine church, Chicago, Illinois, serving in this capacity until his appointment to St. Patrick parish.<sup>48</sup>

Father Lowney knew that the University of Illinois had notified the authorities at St. Patrick that unless the St. Patrick high school building had some extraordinary reconditioning during the summer of 1942 it could not expect to hold its affiliation with that institution. He set to work at once with a zest and between the month of July and the month of September the interior of St. Patrick high school was completely renovated.

In September 1942 Father Lowney asked that the children of the St. Patrick grade school be organized into a Congregational Liturgical Choir for the singing of the High Mass at nine o'clock on Sunday morning. This work was placed under the direction of the grade school faculty and by early October the children were singing the High Mass.

On October 21, 1942 a meeting of all the parents of the members of the St. Patrick Band was held in the St. Patrick auditorium. It was unanimously decided to organize a Band Parents' Club. Mr. Paul LeCuyer was elected president, Mrs. Michael L. Clancy, secretary and Mrs. Harry Carroll, treasurer. The project was immediately launched and they undertook to map a campaign to secure new uniforms for the St.

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48. Data provided by the Provincial Archives of the Clerics of St. Viator, Provincial House, Chicago, Illinois.



Patrick Band. A St. Patrick Tag Day permit was secured and the day scheduled for this event, October 31, 1942 became a red letter day for the parish as over one thousand dollars were taken in at that time. The order for new green and gold uniforms was placed immediately with a Chicago firm and on March 4, 1943 Mr. Charles Granger directed his one hundred band members in their first appearance in their tailored green and gold uniforms. Mr. Granger's uniform was of white.<sup>49</sup>

The Most Reverend James A. Griffin of the diocese of Springfield, Illinois, addressed the Holy Name Society of the parish in the high school auditorium on the evening of January 11, 1943. Immediately following this discourse there was a smoker and refreshments. The arrangements for this were made by Reverend Edward Haungs, the Holy Name director for 1943.

On January 17, 1943 in the **Financial Report for 1943** Reverend James A. Lowney told his parishioners that during the year 1942 two investments had been made in the Catholic Bishop of Chicago Bonds, gilt-edged securities, one bond for \$25,000 and another for \$10,000. After all of the reconditioning of the school had been done and with all the ordinary expenses of operation there remained at that time an excess revenue of \$12,811.28 for the year 1942.

During the month of February another important advance was made in the improvement of the St. Patrick high school. Mr. William Kraus became aware of the needs of the Home Making Department. On Thursday evening, February 11, 1942, with the assistance of his two sons, William and James, and Mr. Martzelle of the J. A. Reitze Company, he installed a tile board back against which three very convenient enamel cabinets were placed above the sink. Another cabinet with chromium bound top was adjusted beside the sink. On the following day Mr. Kraus told Senator Louis Beckman of the need of this department for a suitable dining room suit. Senator Beckman told him to purchase the furniture and send the bill to him. Through the cooperation of Mr. Martin O'Brien of the Turk Furniture Company a suitable set was secured. It seems fitting that in a history of this kind the names of the donors who gave their support to the work undertaken by Mr. Kraus be listed. They are as



follows: Mr. D. M. Raiche, S. E. Boudreau, A. L. Hattenburg, W. A. Kraus, E. L. Gerrity, Elzie Huot, Edward Bergeron, J. E. McDermott, Carleton Marth, J. A. Reitze, Kathleen La-Montagne, J. P. Clifford, A. E. Kerger, J. L. Mortell, E. E. Mortell, Erwin Gray, Romy Hammes and M. L. Clancy.<sup>50</sup>

One of the greatest ventures undertaken in the history of the St. Patrick parish was launched by Father James A. Lowney on February 28 when he announced<sup>51</sup> his intention of publishing an accurate historical account of the St. Patrick parish by way of celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the parish. The cooperation of the parishioners and of those who were interested in St. Patrick parish have made this both possible and a reality. The account begins with the first Mass read in the St. Patrick Church in March 1894 and it seems fitting that we conclude the historical account with the activities of the parish for March 1943.

The St. Patrick Party for March 17, 1943 held, as usual, an appeal for the people of Kankakee. It was sponsored by the Young People's Club under the direction of Reverend Donald C. Glynn, C.S.V., and the proceeds were used for the decoration of the sanctuary in St. Patrick church. The decoration of the sanctuary was the initial step in the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the parish as planned by the Reverend James A. Lowney. This was the first year the annual St. Patrick Day Party was sponsored by the Young People's Club. Since this was the case there were many details which were unfamiliar to them, but through the generous cooperation and direction of the Holy Name Society and the Altar and Rosary Society the attendance at the party and the events of the evening were very much of a success.

Since the St. Patrick church itself was made possible by the generous donations of the first church committee, styled the "Building Committee" it seems fitting that the last recorded event in the **History of St. Patrick Parish from 1893 until 1943** should be a list of donors. During the month of February Mr. James Quigley, a former student of St. Patrick School, visited the St. Patrick Library and seeing the need of a new set of **Americana Encyclopedia** he left the library and placed an order for a 1943 edition to be delivered to the school. In March the Home Economics Division in the St. Patrick High School was the recipient of a complete dinner

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50. **The Patrician**, February 14, 1943.

51. *Ibid.*, l. c.



set, a complete silver service, a set of crystal ware and beautiful table linens. These were the gifts of the following: Miss Helen Joubert, Mrs. W. J. Richert, Mrs. E. E. Mortell, Mrs. J. W. Mortell, Mrs. Kathleen LaMontagne, Mrs. J. L. Mortell, Mrs. Harry Worrell, Mrs. E. Gerrity, Mrs. D. J. O'Loughlin and Mrs. W. Kraus. Other gifts were made by Cleo O'Loughlin, Mary Jane Richert, Mrs. Frank Schatzle, Mrs. Daniel Graveline, Mrs. J. P. Hickey, Miss Yolanda Hickey, Mrs. C. H. Ordning, Miss Patricia Forbes, Miss Ann Cassidy, Mr. Marvin Huot, Mrs. Edith Shoven, Rita Raiche and Mrs. H. J. Mackin. The students in this department realized that they were entirely unable to repay the generosity of the donors in a material way, so, in order to show their appreciation, they have placed their debt in the Sacred Heart and have presented the donors with a spiritual bouquet.<sup>52</sup>

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52. **The Patrician**, March 28, 1943, p. 2.



## Historical Sketch of the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross

This Society, now well into the second century of its existence, owes its origin to a victim of the French Revolution, a Belgian priest, Reverend Charles Nerinckx. This truly wonderful man of God, surrounded by continual perils and unable to see how long the religious subversion would last, began to think seriously of devoting himself to the missions about 1800. While undecided where God wanted him to go he heard, in 1802, of a letter said to be written by Father Gouppe, secretary to the Prince Bishop of Liege. Later Father Nerinckx learned that this letter was neither genuine nor accurate but it made clear to him the need of missionary priests in the American wilds and prompted him to select America in preference to other fields of labor.<sup>1</sup>

Bishop Carroll of Baltimore was happy to welcome Father Nerinckx to the mission fields in America. The Belgian missionary was forty-three years of age when he entered upon his missionary career. But he brought to it, with the experienced skill which twenty years of arduous ministry, spiritual direction and mental suffering had given him, a zeal characteristic of those who are interested in the cause of Christ.

Reverend Stephen Theodore Badin was at that time, 1805, the only resident priest in Kentucky. He needed help in his abandoned missions of Kentucky and Bishop Carroll realized that this rugged priest would be a treasure to the proto-priest of America. So to the wilds of Kentucky he sent the Belgian exile in 1805.

Father Nerinckx was a man far in advance of his times as is proved by the work which he accomplished. After a short time he was convinced that it was not enough to build churches and to erect magnificent edifices to the honor and glory of God. Realizing most keenly the need of Catholic education for the children of his scattered congregation he

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1. For a complete history of the life of Reverend Charles Nerinckx see Camillus Maes, **Life of Reverend Charles Nerinckx**; Reverend W. J. Howlett, **Reverend C. Nerinckx**.



held many earnest consultations with Father Badin, his co-worker, about the best means of securing the needed Catholic education. Like a sentinel upon the mountain he saw the world spread out before him; as a priest and as a teacher he studied it. He realized that to build up the Church in America and preserve the Faith in the hearts of the people, next in importance to bishops and priests came religious teachers. The repeated cry, "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep" was forever ringing in his ears. Though baffled in his first efforts to secure teachers, and perhaps, despondent at times, his trust in Divine Providence never wavered. His serious consideration and earnest prayers were directed toward some means of supplying this great want. He solicited the prayers and sacrifices of his friends that God would cast a spark in the heart of some generous, self-sacrificing woman, setting it afire with the flame of Divine Charity, a charity that would prompt her to sacrifice herself for the souls of others, especially the souls of the children.

Maryland, founded through Catholic zeal, was to furnish such a woman. The spark of Divine Love, for which Father Nerinecx had prayed and sacrificed, was cast into the heart of a pioneer girl—born in America, reared in America and made strong by the rugged force of early American pioneer life. Mary Rhodes was the name of her who offered neither gold nor other material treasure to her God, but offered herself to the service of Christ Jesus and His Church. The fire which had kindled in her soul prompted her to go to the assistance of the great Kentucky Missionary and request that she be permitted to extend the instruction she had already begun for her nieces, in the home of her brother, to other children of the neighborhood. The request was freely granted and in a little cabin on a hill near Hardin's Creek, Washington County, Kentucky, not far from the present St. Charles church, was opened, April 25, 1812, the **first Catholic School** in that vast region. When St. Francis began his life of lowliness, little did he dream of the great army that would follow him in his severe way of evangelical poverty. So, too, little did Mary Rhodes realize that the band of religious women who would call her **Foundress** and who were clothed on April 25, 1812, just one month before the great War of 1812, would later spread, and become the pioneer teaching order of the West.

Like the **Star of Empire**, so, too, did the star of Loretto move ever westward. Where the hunter blazed the trail, where the western settler built his humble cabin by the banks of the Mississippi and on the Colorado mountain side, where the Osage camped in Kansas and in Oklahoma, where the



miner delved in New Mexico, past the towering Rockies out to the Pacific Coast—in a word wherever there have been souls to save, there have gone the daughters of Mary Rhodes.

Loretto had reached the land of the fruit and flowers, which lay by the placid waters of the Pacific; and as the echoes of the guns of the First World War died away she heard the cry for help from the pagan souls in the Far East. Never had she failed to give ear to the needy. The work in America must continue but Loretto knew, too, that she must not let this cry go unheeded. She must develop, in the widest sense, the missionary spirit which is the surest guarantee that the **Spirit of Nerinckx** is not dead and that the fire of Divine Charity cast into the heart of Mary Rhodes continues to burn brightly. Accordingly Reverend Mother Clarasine Walsh accepted the first Foreign Mission Field outside of the United States. Just one hundred years after Loretto's first venture beyond Kentucky into the then unsettled territory of Missouri, the Daughters of Mary Rhodes stretched forth their hands to minister to a nation sitting in pagan darkness. In the Fall of 1923, following the Star of the East, an intrepid group of six Loretines bade farewell to America. This time the mission was to Han Yang, Hupeh, China. Later a foundation was made in Shanghai, China.

At present the Sisters of Loretto conduct schools in the Archdioceses of Louisville, Chicago, Denver, St. Louis, Santa Fe, Los Angeles; and in the Dioceses of Columbus, Rockford, Belleville, Kansas City, El Paso, Gallup, Mobile, St. Joseph, San Diego and Tucson.<sup>2</sup>

The Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross conduct 1 Central high school, 11 parish high schools, 11 private high schools for girls, 2 public high schools, 1 private Chinese high school for girls in Shanghai, China and 1 Indian high school, 65 parochial grade schools, 7 private grade schools for girls, 5 public grade schools, 1 grade school in Shanghai, China, and 1 grade school in Han Yang, China and 2 grade schools for Negro children, a Junior college and two Senior

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2. For a complete account of the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross see Anna C. Minogue, **Loretto: Annals of a Century**; and Sister M. Lillian Owens, S. L., **The History of the Sisters of Loretto in the Trans-Mississippi West**, an unpublished doctoral dissertation in the St. Louis University Library, St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri.



colleges for women, Webster college, Webster Groves, Missouri and Loretto Heights College, Loretto, Colorado.<sup>3</sup>

Webster College was founded in 1915, and was incorporated under the Legislature of the State of Missouri, July 20, 1916 with the full power to confer degrees. It was formerly known as Loretto College. Webster College has the distinction of being the first Senior College for women under Catholic auspices in Missouri. It was also the first of the Catholic Colleges in that section to be fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. It is on the list of standard colleges for the Nation-



**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING—WEBSTER COLLEGE**

al Catholic Education Association, a member of the Association of American Universities as a corporate college of St. Louis University; is an institutional member of the American Council of Education; is affiliated with the Catholic University of America; is registered for State Teachers' certificates by the Department of Education of the State of Missouri.

Webster college is essentially a Catholic college of liberal arts. The educational policy embraces a two-fold purpose: the building of Christian character, and the training of the

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3. See **Records** in Archives Loretto Motherhouse, Nerinx P. O., Kentucky.



intellect. In pursuing the purpose of its foundation it aims to lay and strengthen the foundations necessary for the development of the cultured woman. The college subordinates vocational and technical preparation to liberal education. It emphasizes the value of broad intellectual interests, the ability to reason, the training of the intellect, in order that its graduate may take her place creditably in civic, social and religious life.

Loretto Height College was incorporated under the Loretto Literary and Benevolent Institution of Colorado in 1918 and empowered by the State of Colorado to confer degrees.



**Front Entrance to the Administration Building at Loretto Heights**

The institution owes its beginning to the pioneer spirit of a small group of intrepid Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross who left the Motherhouse in Kentucky and trekked across the plains in 1852 to Santa Fe and later in 1864 from Santa Fe to Denver. There in 1864 they opened the historic St. Mary academy, which still flourishes as a private school for girls. During the intervening years the Sisters of Loretto conducted primary, intermediate and secondary schools in Denver and elsewhere throughout the State of Colorado, founding in 1890 Loretto Heights academy which was closed in 1940. More recent members of the Society ac-



complished their crowning work in establishing Loretto Heights College for women to supply a further educational need for the Catholic Church in Colorado.

Loretto Heights is affiliated with the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., and holds membership in the National Catholic Education Association. It is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools as a degree-granting institution; it is registered by the University of the State of New York; it is approved for State Teachers' Certificates by the Colorado State Department of Public Instruction and by the Texas State Department of Education.

The chief objectives of Loretto Heights college are: To cultivate the mind and heart, to develop all that is best and to eradicate all that is faulty in character, while in no way interfering with the student's individuality. To produce the true scholar—the true woman equipped for places of social leadership and for highest womanly service. To focus attention on vocational training as a preparation for one's personal adjustment. To prepare in a special way for the vocations of home-making, teaching and secretarial positions; and lastly to stimulate in the student a keener appreciation of responsibility in the participation of public affairs.



## OUR DEAD

The members of our parish who are dead rejoice with us, the living, in this Golden Jubilee Year of St. Patrick parish. Their faces and their voices come back vividly to their families and to their friends today. Their advice, their spiritual heroism and their loyalty to God and to St. Patrick Church live in our memory, stir our endeavors and steel our perseverance.

This Church, built as a "home for my Father," is one more bond twined round the hearts of those living, and those who have gone home to that "Father." They dreamed, they hoped, they sacrificed; and by going into debt they bought this plot of land. Those who have come after them have shouldered nobly the task of bringing St. Patrick parish up to the point to which they had hoped to bring it. Their share and interest in the welfare of the parish and in the erection of "a home for their Father—God" entitles them to a constant remembrance in the prayers of the priests, brothers, sisters, children and living faithful of the parish of St. Patrick. The memory of the dead is always sacred to Holy Mother Church. With this in mind today we count as members of the St. Patrick parish, not only those whom we see at the Divine Service, but those who have gone before to enjoy the Beatific Vision.

R. I. P.



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